

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 through 47 (Cancel)

48. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier ~~and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver;~~

querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) instructing ~~the computer to take no action~~ a set-top-box to turn-on-a television, ii) instructing the ~~computer to request a home web page~~ television to adjust a volume according to the user profile, iii) instructing the ~~computer to receive emails~~ set-top-box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver ~~setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires;~~

sending the user identifier to a presence database;

querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

49. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 48, further comprising launching an application in response to the user identifier specifying that a first executed action predominates over later actions, such that the later actions cannot conflict with the first executed action.
50. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[49]]~~ 48, further comprising launching an application based on a time of day and on the user identifier specifying a predominate user over all other users, such that the actions specified by the other users' profiles can never conflict with the actions specified by the predominate user's profile.
51. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[49]]~~ 48, further comprising launching an application that retrieves weather and traffic information i) querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.
52. (Original) The method according to claim 48, wherein executing the at least one action comprises denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
53. (Original) The method according to claim 48, wherein executing the at least one action comprises requesting information for a webpage.
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58. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

means for transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an

interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, means for receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, means for sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

means for sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier ~~and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver;~~

means for querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

means for accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

means for executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) ~~instructing the computer to take no action~~ instructing the computer to turn on a television, ii) ~~instructing the computer to request a home web page~~ television to adjust a volume according to the user profile, iii) ~~instructing the computer to receive emails~~ set-top box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) ~~instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver~~ setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires;

means for sending the user identifier to a presence database;

means for querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

means for receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

59. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 58, further comprising means for ~~launching an application in response to the user identifier specifying that a first executed action predominates over later actions, such that the later actions cannot conflict with the first executed action.~~

60. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[59]] 58, further comprising means for launching an application based on a time of day and on the user identifier specifying a predominate user over all other users, such that the actions specified by the other users' profiles can never conflict with the actions specified by the predominate user's profile.
61. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 59, further comprising means for launching an application that retrieves weather and traffic information i)- means for querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) means for receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.
62. (Original) The system according to claim 58, wherein the means for executing the at least one action comprises means for denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
63. (Original) The system according to claim 58, wherein the means for executing the at least one action comprises means for requesting information for a webpage.
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68. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media storing processor executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen-saver;

querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) instructing ~~the computer to take no action~~ a set-top box to turn on a television, ii) instructing the ~~computer to request a home web page~~ television to adjust a volume according to the user profile, iii) instructing the ~~computer to receive emails~~ set-top box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver ~~setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires~~;

sending the user identifier to a presence database;

querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

69. (Currently Amended) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for launching an application in response to the user identifier ~~accessing conflict determination rules when two or more actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying that a first-executed action predominates over a later action.~~

70. (Currently Amended) The computer readable media according to claim [[69]] 68, further comprising instructions for launching an application based on a time of day and on the user identifier ~~accessing the conflict determination rules when two or more user's actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying one of the user's actions to predominate.~~

71. (Currently Amended) The computer readable media according to claim 69, further comprising ~~[[i]]~~ instructions for launching an application that retrieves weather and traffic information ~~querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) instructions for receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.~~
72. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
73. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for requesting information for a webpage.
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